Nina J. Thomsen PO Box 21 ~ Columbia, NI 07832

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August 7, 1999

Dockets Management Branch (HFA-305) Food and Drug Administration 5630 Fishers Lane, Room 1061 Rockville, MD 20852

Re: 98N-1230; 96P-0418; 97P-0197

Dear Sir or Madam,

FDA has jurisdiction to. ban farm practices, such as forced molting, that injure human health. You must do more than put bacteria warning labels on egg cartons and regulate egg refrigeration temperatures.

The practice of forced molting should be prohibited, as it has been scientifically shown to promote disease by destroying the starving hens' immune systems. Forced molting is a primary cause of infectious diseases in hens, eggs, and consumers of eggs, and <u>must be banned</u>. The cruelty and contamination are linked.

In April 1998, the FDA was petitioned to ban forced molting – this petition should be granted without further delay!

Sincerely,

Nina J. Thomsen

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CROSS FILE SHEET

File Number: 98N-1230/ C 16 2

See File Number: 97P-0197/ C16 3

96P-0418/ C162